

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. *(currently amended)* A modified human catalase polypeptide having a carboxy-terminal peroxisome targeting signal (PTS) that has been modified from a native sequence of Lys-Ala-Asn-Leu (SEQ ID NO: 1) by replacement of SEQ ID NO:1 in human catalase with a PTS comprising the sequence Xaa₃-Xaa₂-Xaa₁, wherein, independently,
Xaa₃ is Ser, Ala or Cys;
Xaa₂ is Lys, Arg or His; and
Xaa₁ is Leu or Met.
2. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 1, further comprising, to the amino-terminal side of Xaa₃, *n* additional amino acid residues wherein *n* is an integer between 1 and about 17, the additional residues being numbered sequentially from Xaa₄ for the first additional residue to Xaa₂₀ for the seventeenth additional residue.
3. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 2, wherein *n* is between about 5 and about 17 .
4. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 3, wherein *n* is between about 7 and about 13.
5. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 3, wherein *n* is between about 9 and about 11.
6. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 3, wherein *n* is 9.
7. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 2, wherein *n* is at least 1, 2 or 3, and residues at any one of Xaa₆ to Xaa₄ are hydrophobic amino acids.
8. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 7, wherein residues at any one of Xaa₆ to Xaa₄ are, independently, Leu, Val, Ile, Ala or Gly.
9. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 2, wherein *n* is at least 1, and residue Xaa₄ is a negatively charged amino acid.

10. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 9, wherein residue Xaa₄ is Lys, Arg or His.
11. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 10, wherein residue Xaa₄ is Lys.
12. *(previously presented)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 1, wherein Xaa₃ is Ser, Xaa₂ is Lys, and Xaa₁ is Leu.
13. *(withdrawn)* A modified catalase polypeptide, which comprises, at or near its amino-terminus, an amino acid sequence comprising the PTS2-type sequence (Arg/Lys)-(Leu/Ile/Val)-(X₅)-(His/Gln)-(Ala/Leu/Phe).
14. *(withdrawn)* The modified catalase polypeptide of claim 13, wherein the PTS2-type sequence is Arg-Leu-Gln-Val-Val-Leu-Gly-His-Leu (SEQ ID NO: 11).
15. *(withdrawn)* The modified catalase of claim 1, which further comprises, at or near its amino-terminus, an amino acid sequence comprising the PTS2-type sequence (Arg/Lys)-(Leu/Ile/Val)-(X₅)-(His/Gln)-(Ala/Leu/Phe).
16. *(withdrawn)* The modified catalase of claim 15, wherein the PTS2-type sequence is Arg-Leu-Gln-Val-Val-Leu-Gly-His-Leu (SEQ ID NO: 11).
17. *(withdrawn)* A nucleic acid molecule encoding the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the coding sequence is operably linked to an expression control sequence.
18. *(withdrawn)* A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 17.
19. *(withdrawn)* A method for preparing the modified catalase of claim 1 comprising
- (a) incubating a host cell that comprises a nucleic acid encoding said modified catalase polypeptide under conditions effective for expression of said polypeptide, and
 - (b) harvesting the modified catalase from the host cell.
20. *(previously presented)* A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- (a) the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 1; and
 - (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or carrier.
21. *(previously presented)* A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- (a) the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 2; and
 - (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or carrier.
22. *(withdrawn)* A pharmaceutical composition comprising
- (a) the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 15; and
 - (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or carrier.

23. *(previously presented)* A deliverable, peroxisomally-targeted polypeptide comprising:

- (a) the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 1, and
- (b) a delivery or translocation molecule or moiety bound thereto or associated therewith.

24. *(previously presented)* A deliverable, peroxisomally-targeted polypeptide comprising:

- (a) the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 2, and
- (b) a delivery or translocation molecule or moiety bound thereto or associated therewith.

25. *(withdrawn)* A deliverable, peroxisomally-targeted polypeptide comprising:

- (a) the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 15, and
- (b) a delivery or translocation molecule or moiety bound thereto or associated therewith.

26. *(previously presented)* The deliverable, peroxisomally targeted polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the delivery molecule is a peptide or polypeptide.

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29. *(previously presented)* The deliverable polypeptide of claim 26 wherein the peptide or polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of

- (a) HIV-TAT protein or a translocationally active derivative thereof,
- (b) penetratin having the sequence RQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK (SEQ ID NO: 4),
- (c) a penetratin variant W48F having the sequence RQIKIFFQNRRMKWKK (SEQ ID NO: 5)
- (d) a penetratin variant W56F having the sequence RQIKIWFQNRRMKFKK, SEQ ID NO: 6)
- (e) a penetratin variant having the sequence RQIKIWFQNRRMKFKK, SEQ ID NO: 7)
- (f) herpes simplex virus protein VP22 or a translocationally-active homologue thereof from a different herpes virus; and
- (g) Pep-1, having the sequence KETWWETWWTEWSQPKKKRKV (SEQ ID NO: 9).

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34. *(previously presented)* The deliverable polypeptide of claim 23 wherein the delivery moiety associated with the modified catalase is a liposome which comprises effective concentrations of external membrane phosphatidylserine for uptake by phagocytic cells or other phosphatidylserine-recognizing cells.

35. *(previously presented)* A method for reducing the concentration of hydrogen peroxide in a cell, comprising contacting said cell with a modified catalase polypeptide of claim 1, under conditions wherein said polypeptide is targeted to peroxisomes in an amount sufficient to reduce said concentration.

36. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 35, wherein the modified catalase polypeptide further comprises a delivery or translocation molecule or moiety bound thereto or associated therewith.

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41. *(currently amended)* The method of claim 35[[36]], wherein the contacting is *in vitro*.

42. *(currently amended)* The method of claim 35[[36]], wherein the contacting is *in vivo*.

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45. *(withdrawn)* A method for treating a mammalian subject suffering from a disease or condition associated with or caused by an inadequate level of peroxisomally active catalase, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 1.

46. *(withdrawn)* A method for treating a subject suffering from a disease or condition associated with or caused by an inadequate level of peroxisomally active catalase, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 20.

47. *(withdrawn)* A method for treating a subject suffering from a disease or condition associated with or caused by an inadequate level of peroxisomally active catalase, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 21.

48. *(withdrawn)* A method for treating a subject suffering from a disease or condition associated with or caused by an inadequate level of peroxisomally active catalase, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 22.

49. *(withdrawn)*. The method of claim 45, wherein the subject is a human.

50. *(withdrawn)* The method of claim 45, wherein the disease or condition is age-related.

51. *(withdrawn)* A method treating for preventing the development of age-related skin wrinkling or other disfigurement, comprising carrying out the method of claim 45.

52. *(withdrawn)* The method of claim 45 wherein said administering is topical.

53. *(withdrawn)* The method of claim 45, wherein the disease or condition is hyperlipidemia, a skin disease, a neurodegenerative disease, an existing ischemic condition or a risk of reperfusion injury subsequent to treatment of the ischemic condition.

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56. *(withdrawn)* A nucleic acid molecule encoding the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the coding sequence is operably linked to an expression control sequence.

57. *(withdrawn)* A nucleic acid molecule encoding the modified catalase polypeptide of claim 15, wherein the coding sequence is operably linked to an expression control sequence.

58. *(new)* The modified catalase according to claim 12, wherein the Ser-Lys-Leu sequence is not preceded by Lys-Ala-Asn-Leu (SEQ ID NO:1).

59. *(new)* A modified catalase polypeptide according to claim 2, wherein the four C-terminal amino acids are encoded by the coding nucleotides from a reverse primer being represented by SEQ ID NO:18.